
1949

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

ROMSEY & STOCKBRIDGE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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to the

ROMSEY & STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for the year 1949.

SECTION A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres)	83,672
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)	25,240
Rateable Value	£133,424
Product of each penny of General Rate	£515/7/8
Number of Council Houses	494

Vital Statistics.

Live Births—	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	228	187	415	} Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 18.3
Illegitimate	18	12	30	

Still Births—				
Legitimate	7	2	9	} Rate per 1,000 live and still births 20
Illegitimate	0	0	0	

Deaths—	104	113	217	Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 9.0
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Number of women dying in or in consequence of child birth }	From Sepsis	0
	From other causes	1

Infantile Mortality—Death rate of infants under 1 year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	315
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	28
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	67

The death rate is low and the birth rate is about average.

Of all causes of death, Heart Disease accounted for 65, Cancer 34, Cerebral Hæmorrhage 25, Tuberculosis 5, Pneumonia 4 and Bronchitis 14.

There is very little change in the General Nutrition ; it has become more or less stabilised at a slightly lower level than pre-war and it will be some time before an improvement in the diet shows any noticeable change. The school children have benefited considerably from school meals and milk.

SECTION B.—General Provision of Health Services.

(1) *Public Health Officers of the Authority.*

- (a) The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health of the adjoining Borough of Romsey and Assistant County Medical Officer.
- (b) The Sanitary Inspector is a whole time Officer.
- (c) The Assistant Sanitary Inspector is also a whole time Officer.

The accommodation available for the Public Health Staff is very limited.

The two Sanitary Inspectors, a clerk and I share one small room.

(2) *Nursing in the Home.*

There is no nursing arrangement or contribution by the Local Authority.

- (a) General by District Nurses.

(3) *Laboratory Facilities.*

The County Laboratory, The Castle, Winchester.

Emergency Public Health Laboratory, R.H.C. Hospital, Winchester.

(4) *Hospitals.*

General : The Romsey and District Hospital, the Southampton Hospitals and the Royal Hants County Hospital are those principally used.

Infectious :— Where cases cannot be satisfactorily nursed at home, they are admitted to the Salisbury and District Isolation Hospital and the Southampton Isolation Hospital.

Small Pox. Provision is made by the County Council.

Tuberculosis. Sanatoria and Dispensaries are provided.

Maternity and Infant Welfare. The County Council have centres at Wellow, Broughton, Houghton, West Tytherley, King's Somborne, Lockerley, Leckford, Stockbridge, Wallop, Nursling, Maybush, Mottisfont, North Baddesley and Romsey.

Orthopædic. Children from the area attend clinics at Eastleigh, Andover, Totton and Salisbury.

SECTION E.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

6. *Water.*

(a) Sixty samples of water from wells within the District serving houses and schools were submitted for bacteriological examination. Approximately 70% were found to be satisfactory on initial examination. Of the remainder, a satisfactory supply was obtained in the great majority of cases by having the wells cleansed and properly covered and in some cases periodically chlorinated.

One private piped supply previously fitted with a drip-feed chlorination plant, continued to give satisfaction on analysis.

(b) During the exceptionally hot summer months, several cases arose where shallow wells failed. Arrangements were made for the persons relying upon such sources of supply to obtain water from neighbouring deep wells where it was practicable to do so. In one Parish the Authority repaired an existing well, had a pump installed and made the supply available to the parishioners.

(ii) The water supplied by the Southampton Corporation is examined and tested by that Authority.

(iii) No cases of contamination by lead were encountered during the year.

(iv) Contamination manifested itself chiefly in those parts of the district supplied by shallow wells. These were cleansed, covered and chlorinated and afterwards proved a source of satisfactory supply.

(v) (a) The number of dwelling-houses supplied from Public water mains are as follows :—

Parish	Est. Number of Houses	Est. Population Served
Ampfield	246	1069
Chilworth	140	582
Michelmersham	200	646
Millbrook	1391	4120
North Baddesley	329	1479
Nursling and Rownhams	417	1469
Romsey Extra	141	462
Frenchmoor	9	36

(b) There are no dwelling-houses supplied from stand-pipes.

7. *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.*

No important extensions of sewers have been made by this Authority during the year. The Southampton Corporation, however, have continued the laying of sewers within the Parish of Millbrook. These sewers are to serve the Corporation's Housing Estates within the Parish, erected on land compulsorily acquired by them and are to be extended to serve other properties in the future.

Sewage disposal works were provided at Houghton, Michelmersh, King's Somborne, Ampfield, Nursling, Melchet Park and Plaitford, for use in connection with the Authority's various housing sites.

8. *Meat and Other Foods.*

Food premises are inspected at least twice a year. Premises falling within this category include bakehouses, restaurants, fish and chip vehicles, retail meat shops and other premises where food is prepared or offered for sale. Subsequent to inspections made during the year several informal notices under the Food and Drugs Act 1938 were served and in each case the defects found were remedied without resort to legal enforcement. Of the three persons manufacturing ice-cream within the District, one uses the "hot-mix" and two the "complete cold mix" method as prescribed under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, Etc.) Regulations, 1947. Complaints have been received that the "complete cold mix" obtained, does not produce a palatable article.

No slaughtering is undertaken in this area. Meat is delivered from abattoirs in Southampton, where it is inspected at the time of slaughter. During the year, however, 315 lbs. of home-killed beef were found to be unfit for human consumption, principally through bone-taint.

During the year, proceedings were instigated under the Milk and Dairies Order 1926 in two cases. In each instance the defendants had failed to Register as Cowkeepers and had used unsatisfactory premises without giving the necessary one month's notice to the Authority of their intention to so use them. Fines of £10 with £1/1/0 costs and £1 and £1/1/0 costs respectively were imposed.

9. *Food Poisoning Outbreaks.*

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning reported during the year.

10. *Factories.*

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	No. on Register (3)	Number of			M/c. line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecut'd (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	1	12	10	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority ..	2	88	32	1	-	2
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (exclud- ing out - workers premises) ...	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL ...		100	42	1	-	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were :—					M/c. line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	Prose- cutions (7)	
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1) ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) ...	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temp- erature (Sec. 3) ...	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventila- tion (Sec. 4) ...	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6)...	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Convenien- ces (Sec. 7) :—							
(a) Insufficient ...	9	-	1	-	1	-	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	-	1	-	1	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act (not inclu- ding offences relat- ing to out-work)...	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
TOTAL ...	60	-	2	-	2	-	60

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	SECTION 110					SECTION 111		
	M-c. line No.	Number out-workers Aug. list Sec. 110	Default in sending lists	Prosecutions failure to give lists	Instances work in faulty Premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	M-c. Line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Making, etc.,	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	13
Wearing Apparel								
Cleaning and Washing ...	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Household Linen ...	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets ...	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Curtains and Furniture Hangings...	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Furniture and Upholstery	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Electro-plate ..	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
File Making ...	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Brass and Brass Articles...	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Fur Pulling ...	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Iron and Steel Cables and Chains ...	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Iron and Steel Anchors and Grapnels ..	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Cart Gear ...	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Locks, Latches and Keys	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Umbrellas, etc. ..	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Artificial Flowers ...	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Nets, other than Wire Nets ...	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Tents ...	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Sacks ...	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Racquet and Tennis Balls	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Paper Bags ...	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
The making of Boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Brush Making ...	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Pea Picking...	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Feather Sorting ...	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc. ...	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	38
Stuffed Toys ...	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Basket Making ...	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Chocolate & Sweetmeats	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc. ...	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Textile Weaving ...	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
Lampshades ...	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
TOTAL ...	70	2	-	-	-	-	-	70

SECTION F.—Prevalence and control over Infections and Other Diseases.

There was an outbreak of Measles and some cases of Scarlet Fever. Thirty-eight cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and fourteen were admitted to Hospital. There were two cases of Gastro-Enteritis.

There were no cases of Diphtheria.

The number of children in the area who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1949 were as follows :—

under 1	28	} Total 3074
1	290	
2	252	
3	225	
4	268	
5—9	1120	
10—14	89	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) During the year 1949.

Disease			Total Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	38	14	0
Measles	...	...	345	2	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	26	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	6	1	0
Erysipelas	...	...	2	0	0
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	1	1	0
Ophthalmia	...	...	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified and transfers :—

Pulmonary...	...	Males 16	Females 6	Total 22
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males 4	Females 4	Total 8
Deaths :—		M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	...	1	2	3
Non-Pulmonary	...	2	0	2

TABLE.

Causes of Death in Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District, 1949.

Cause of Death	M.	F.
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	2	0
Pulmonary T.B.	1	2
Syphilitic	1	0
Influenza	1	0
Cancer	17	17
Diabetes	0	0
Intra-Cranial	9	16
Heart	34	31
Other Circulatory	1	5
Bronchitis	6	8
Pneumonia	2	2
Other Resp.	2	1
Ulcer of the Stomach	1	0
Appendicitis	0	1
Diarrhoea (under 2)	2	1
Other Digestive	2	0
Nephritis	2	3
Premature Birth	2	1
Congenital and Birth Injuries	4	1
Suicide	3	1
Road Traffic	2	2
Other Violent	1	2
All other causes	9	19
TOTAL	104	113

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. TATE,
Medical Officer of Health.

